

OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Stacy Dagleish, 1st Vice Chair, Presiding

APPROVED: September 26th, 2019

MSC: Cooperberg/Acebo - 1 Abstention

DISCUSSION

Call to Order by Commissioner Dagleish

Welcome and Introductions

A. **Roll Call:** Canetana Hurd

Present: Commissioners Susan Friedman, Imelda Padilla-Frausto, Reba Stevens, Kathy Cooper-Ledesma, Stacy Dagleish, Patrick Ogawa, Kevin Acebo, Judy Cooperberg, and Brittney Weissman - **QUORUM**

Absent Excused: Commissioners Curry, Murata Shih, and Scott

B. **Introduction of OCFA Staff** (Office of Consumer and Family Affairs)

Presenting Programs and Program Managers – Stacy Williams, Service Area 4 Chief

Service Area 4 Recognition

SAAC 4 acknowledged Harold Turner and Reginald Alfon for leadership and recognition serving as SAAC Co-Chairs.

Brief overview of the Service Area geographic – Stacy Williams

- densely populated area; population over 20 million
- most diverse community
- 20 difference languages
- has the most diverse consumers in Los Angeles County
- three clinics:

Hollywood Mental Health Center - primarily an outpatient clinic; preparing for the TRIESTE project in 2020

Downtown Mental Health Center – primarily provides PEI and co-located services

Northeast Mental Health Center and Wellness Clinic – primarily provides wellness services through partnerships to promote positive health, personal, and spiritual outcomes

Presentations – Creative Writing Group Success Stories

A. **Northeast Clinic Wellness Center**

- Jessie Cho – gained confidence and self-esteem eliminating social isolation while participating in the creative writing group
- Nathan Cambridge – developed steps to move forward from participating in the creative writing group
- George Bernal – progressed from social isolation to purpose, patience, faith and perseverance in the role of peer advocate

DISCUSSION

B. Peer Resource Center – Catherine Clay

Ms. Clay spoke about Peer Resource Center's (PRC) accomplishments and changes during the past two years.

- Networking opportunities:
 - a) SAAC 4 and the faith based program conduct monthly meetings at the facility
 - b) DMH Leadership Team members speak once a month
 - c) WRAP trainings held at PRC
- Increased transparency – transparency has improved because of changes in leadership
- Served approximately 3,066 people over the past 2 years

Additional Comments from Dr. Jonathan Sherin, Director, Mental Health

Dr. Sherin spoke on DMH accomplishments over the past two years

- WeRISE – creative events organized for all populations to bring communities together
- YourDMH - stakeholder engagement concept to develop stakeholders partnerships to invite new voices from communities
- Opening of the Peer Resource Center
- Restorative Care – Hire and train peers countywide to collaborate with Probation and MLK Behavioral Health Center
- AB 1766 – Board and Care
- SB 10 – Peer Support

Public Comments – Commissioner Friedman

1. **Jim "The Hat"** (SA 5) – Spoke about transformation through hope
2. **Steve Goldman** (SA 4,6,8) – Wish to discuss services other than psychiatric treatment
3. **Richard Fleming** (SA 2) – Spoke on conducting CAF orientations in some service areas because of long commute to downtown.
4. **JoAnn Voiro** (SA 4) – Thanked FSP program helping her obtain housing
5. **Barbara Wilson** (SA 2) – Thanked Skid Row FSP for locating her son
6. **Dr. Anthony Lightfoot** (SA 4) – CEO, Divine Intervention Church, is looking for collaboration opportunities with DMH mental health programs
7. **Marvin Thompson** (SA 2) – Spoke on the lack of communication in the system on issues that can easily be resolved.
8. **Paulina Stomel** (SA 2) – Recommended looking into supportive housing for mentally ill in mobile home parks
9. **Adeline** (SA 4) - What is DMH doing to address issues in Skid Row?
10. **Monisha Parker** (SA 4) – LA Family Housing facility has horrible hazardous conditions in the facility that need to be addressed.
11. **Gilbert LaBlanc** (SA 2) – Music is a great coping skill for mental health. Currently writing a short film project about music and mental health
12. **Lillian Garcia** (SA 4) – Spoke to support Monisha Parker's public comment on the condition of the LA Family Housing but glad to have a safe place to sleep
13. **Dorothy Banks** (SA 6) – Spoke on client, budgetary, and service issues in SA 6.

DISCUSSION

14. **Mark Karmatz** – Gave details on upcoming and past events
15. **Tricia Rizo** (SA 4) – Invited all to Mental Health Promotoras Conference
16. **Jean Harris** (SA 1) – Elderly residents at Lancaster Retirement Village receiving poor care and abuse need assistance and support. The facility has no liability insurance
17. **Grace Barrios** (SA 4)– Spoke about involving First 5 and LAUSD at the table
18. **Esiquio Reyes** – Spoke about addressing the practical environmental reasons people are homeless and push pass addressing stereotypes for being homeless

Commission Business

- A. **ACTION:** Approve April, May, and June meeting minutes – Commissioner Dalglish
- April meeting – Approved by unanimous vote - 1 Abstained
May meeting – Approved by unanimous vote – 3 Abstained
June meeting – Approved by unanimous vote - 4 Abstained
- B. **Election of FY 2019-20 Commission Officers** – Nomination Committee
- Election results:
- Chair – Brittney Weissman** - Approved by unanimous vote
Public comment - Bridgett Gordon requested to hear from candidates running for office positions
Brittney Weissman spoke about herself and her vision as Chair
- 1st Vice Chair – Stacy Dalglish** - Approved by unanimous vote
Public comment - none
- 2nd Vice Chair – Harold Turner** - Approved by unanimous vote
Public comment - none
- Members-at-Large: Patrick Ogawa and Susan Friedman** - Approved by unanimous vote
Public comment - none

Announcement

- **The Mental Health Commission is dark in August, there will be NO MEETING**

Meeting Adjourned

- **Next Meeting – September 26, 2019 – Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room 739, 500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 – 11 am – 1:30 pm**